



No. 4.

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BATTLE OF LAKE ERIE.

CONCLUDED FROM LAST NUMBER.

"At 45 minutes past 2, or when time had been given to the gun-vessels to receive the order mentioned, Capt. Perry showed the signal from the Niagara, for close action, and immediately bore up, under his foresail top-sails and top-gallant-sail. As the American vessels hoisted their answering flags, this order was received with three cheers, and it was obeyed with alacrity and spirit. The enemy now attempted to wear round, to get fresh broadsides to bear, in doing which his line got into confusion, and the two ships, for a short time, were foul of each other, while the Lady Prevost had so far shifted her berth, as to be both to the westward and to the leeward of the Detroit. At this critical moment, the Niagara came steadily down, within half-pistol shot of the enemy, standing between the Chippeway and Lady Prevost, on one side, and the Detroit, Queen Charlotte and Hunter, on the other. In passing, she poured in her broadsides, starboard and larboard, ranged ahead of the ships, luffed athwart their bows, and continued delivering a close and deadly fire. The shrieks from the Detroit, proved that the tide of battle had turned. At the same moment, the gun-vessels and Caledonia were throwing in close discharges of grape and canister astern. A conflict so fearfully close, and so deadly, was necessarily short. In fifteen or twenty minutes after the Niagara bore up, a hail was passed among the small vessels, to say that the enemy had struck, and an officer of the Queen Charlotte appeared on the taffrail of that ship, waving a white handkerchief, bent to a boarding pike.

As soon as the smoke cleared away, the two squadrons were found partly intermingled. The Niagara lay to leeward of the Detroit, Queen Charlotte, and Hunter, and the Caledonia, with one or two of the gun-vessels, was between them and the Lady Prevost. On board the Niagara, the signal for close action was still abroad, while the small vessels were sternly wearing their answering flags. The Little Belt and Chippeway were endeavouring to escape to lee-

ward, but they were shortly after brought to by the Scorpion and Trippe; while the Lawrence was lying astern and to windward, with the American colours again flying. The battle had commenced about noon, and it terminated at 3, with the exception of a few shots fired at the two vessels that attempted to escape, which were not overtaken until an hour later.

In this decisive action, the two squadrons suffered in nearly an equal degree, so far as their people were concerned; the manner in which the Lawrence was cut up, being almost without an example in naval warfare. It is understood that when Capt. Perry left her, she had but one gun on her starboard side, or that on which she was engaged, which could be used, and that gallant officer is said to have aided in firing it in person, the last time it was discharged. Of her crew 22 were killed, and 61 were wounded, most of the latter severely. When Capt. Perry left her, taking with him four of his people, there remained on board but 15 sound men. The Niagara had 2 killed, and 25 wounded, or about one-fourth of all at quarters. The other vessels suffered relatively less. The Caledonia, Lieut. Turner, though carried into the hottest of the action, and entirely without quarters, had 3 men wounded; the Trippe, Lieut. Holdup,* which, for some time, was quite as closely engaged, and was equally without quarters, had 2 men wounded; the Somers, Mr. Almy, the same; the Ariel, Lieut. Packett, had 1 killed and three wounded; the Scorpion, Mr. Chaplin, had 2 killed, one of whom was a midshipman; the Tigress, Lieut. Conklin, and Porcupine, Mr. Senatt, had no one hurt. The total loss of the squadron was 27 killed, and 96 wounded, or altogether, 123 men; of whom 12 were quarter-deck officers. More than a hundred men were unfit for duty, among the different vessels, previous to the action, cholera morbus and dysentery prevailing in the squadron. Capt. Perry himself, was labouring

*Now Capt. Holdup Stevens.

under debility, from a recent attack of the late fever, and could hardly be said to be in proper condition for service, when he met the enemy—a circumstance that greatly enhances the estimate of his personal exertions, on this memorable occasion. Among the Americans slain were Lieut. Brooks, the commanding marine officer, and Messrs. Laub and Clark, midshipmen; and among the wounded, Messrs. Yarnall and Forrest, the first and second lieutenants of the *Lawrence*, Mr. Taylor, her master, and Messrs. Swartwout and Claxton, two of her midshipmen. Mr. Edwards, second lieutenant of the *Niagara*, and Mr. Cummings, one of her midshipmen, were also wounded.

For two hours, the weight of the enemy's fire had been thrown into the *Lawrence*; and the water being perfectly smooth, his long guns had committed great havoc, before the carronades of the American vessels could be made available. For much of this period, it is believed that the efforts of the enemy were little diverted, except by the fire of the two leading schooners, a gun of one of which (the *Ariel*,) had early bursted, the two long guns of the brigs, and the two long guns of the *Caledonia*. Although the enemy undoubtedly suffered by this fire, it was not directed at a single object, as was the case with that of the English, who appeared to think, that by destroying the American commanding vessel, they would conquer. It is true, that the carronades were used on both sides, at an earlier stage of the action than that mentioned, but there is good reason for thinking that they did but little execution for the first hour. When they did tell, the *Lawrence*, the vessel nearest to the enemy, if the *Caledonia* be excepted, necessarily became their object, and, by this time, the efficiency of her battery was much lessened. As a consequence of these peculiar circumstances, her starboard bulwarks were nearly beaten in; and even her larboard were greatly injured, many of the enemy's heavy shot passing through both sides; while every gun was finally disabled in the batteries fought. Although much has been justly said of the manner in which

the *Bon Homme*, *Richard*, and the *Essex*, were injured; neither of these ships suffered, relatively, in a degree proportioned to the *Lawrence*. Distinguished as were the two former vessels, for the indomitable resolution with which they withstood the destructive fire directed against them, it did not surpass that manifested on board the *Lawrence*; and it ought to be mentioned, that throughout the whole of this trying day, her people, who had been so short a time acting together, manifested a steadiness and discipline worthy of veterans.

Although the *Niagara* suffered in a much less degree, 27 men killed and wounded, in a ship's company that mustered little more than 100 souls at quarters, under ordinary circumstances, would be thought a large proportion. Neither the *Niagara* nor any of the smaller vessels were injured in an unusual manner in their hulls, spars, and sails, the enemy having expended so much of his efforts against the *Lawrence*, and being so soon silenced when that brig and gun-vessel got their raking position, at the close of the conflict.

The injuries sustained by the English were more divided, but were necessarily great. According to the official report of Capt. Barclay, his vessel lost 41 killed, and 94 wounded, making a total of 315, including twelve officers, the precise number lost by the Americans. No report has been published, in which the loss of the respective vessels was given, but the *Detroit* had her first lieutenant killed, and her commander, Capt. Barclay, with her purser wounded. Capt. Finnis, of the *Queen Charlotte* was also slain, and her first lieutenant was wounded. The commanding officer and first lieutenant of the *Lady Prevost* were among the wounded, as were the commanding officers of the *Hunter* and *Chippeway*. All of their vessels were a good deal injured in their sails and hulls; the *Queen Charlotte* suffering most in proportion. Both the *Detroit* and *Queen Charlotte*, however, rolled the masts out of them, at anchor at Put-in Bay, in a gale of wind, two days after the action."

Cooper's Naval History.

From the Connecticut Observer, of 1831.

RELICT OF WYOMING.

DIED at Torringsford, on the 19th of May, 1831, Mrs. ESTHER SKINNER, in the 100th year of her age.

Mrs. Skinner was born at Bolton, in this state, February 26th, 1732. In travelling back to the commencement of her existence, we find ourselves carried through almost half the period of New England's history—the landing of the pilgrims being but little more than a century antecedent to her birth. To hold converse with her while living, was calculated to call vividly to mind events of the former generations, of great religious and political interest to our country. She was of sufficient age to have a personal share in the alarms and distresses and perpetual anxiety

of the protracted French and Indian wars, that harrassed these colonies.

There are some incidents of her past life of so remarkable a character, as to deserve particular notice, on this occasion. These are connected with the war of the revolution. Our national independence with its attendant blessings, which the present generation are enjoying, in quiet repose, was purchased by our fathers, at the expense of great sacrifices and severe struggles. The amount of contribution which our late departed friend thus paid for the benefit of posterity, was no less than a brother, who died of a wound received in the early part of the war—a hus-

band who fell a victim to one of those contagious diseases, which war propagates—and two sons who were butchered at the famous slaughter and conflagration which took place at Wyoming, besides her whole property plundered and destroyed.

The name of Wyoming, associated with events of thrilling interest to the bosom of every American, will long be remembered, by the friends of the deceased. It was a Connecticut colony on the east branch of the Susquehanna, in Pennsylvania, comprising eight townships.—This place our friend with her husband and eight children, had removed in the year 1777—just in time to be overwhelmed in the catastrophe which befel this settlement the following year. A coalition of Tories and savages, who seemed to vie with each other in deeds of cruelty, had sworn vengeance on these unhappy settlers. Their commander is represented to have been “the most ferocious being ever produced by human nature, often too prodigal of similar monsters,” and the cruelties he practised on this occasion, “without an example in the history of inhuman men.” The whole of this fertile and thriving settlement, he speedily converted into a field of slaughter and devastation. Every victory, as the fortifications of the place fell successfully into his hands, was signalized by selecting the men among the prisoners for more conspicuous slaughter, and burning alive the women and children in the conflagration of their houses and villages. When asked by the commander of a fort what terms of capitulation would be granted on condition of the surrender, his reply was, *the hatchet*.

Such was the character of the foe that fell upon the settlement where the deceased with her family resided. It was in the month of July, 1778. Remote from all military succours which government could afford, they had no other means of defence than what their own population could furnish, already drained of much of its sinew and strength to replenish the continental army. Their remaining force comprising every man capable of bearing arms among them, was mustered for their defence. The main body of this little army, consisting of about four hundred men, among whom were the two eldest sons of Mrs. Skinner, just emerging from youth to manhood, were allured from their intrenchments by the artifice and perfidy of the enemy and drawn into ambush. A desperate conflict ensued, in which the firmness of the Americans had well nigh repulsed their enemies; when a misunderstanding of the orders, was the means of breaking their ranks and exposing them to all the fury of an exasperated foe. A scene of carnage and horror followed which beggars description. “The fugitives fell by missiles, the resisting by clubs and tomahawks. The dead and dying are heaped together promiscuously. Happy those who expire the soonest! The savages reserve the living for tortures! and the infuriate Tories, if other arms fail them, mangle the prisoners with their nails!—Never was rout so deplorable, never was massacre accompanied with so many horrors.” About twenty only of these four hundred are said to have escaped alive. Our departed friend who had buried her husband but a short time before, saw her sons no more.

A particular incident of this scene of distress may serve

to give us a nearer view of the picture. A young man who afterwards married a daughter of the deceased was among the survivors. Driven to the brink of the river, he plunged into the water for safety, and swam to a small Island. Here, immersed in the water, protected by the bushes at the water’s edge, and screened by the darkness of the night, he happily eluded the search of the pursuing foe, thirsting for blood; while about twenty of his companions who had retreated likewise to the same spot, were all massacred within a few yards of him. He heard the dismal strokes of the tomahawk and the groans of the sufferers, expecting every moment himself to become the next victim. One savage foot trod upon the very bush to which he clung. A solitary individual besides himself was left at the departure of the savages, to weep with him over the mangled bodies of their friends.

In the mean time the news of this day’s disaster was conveyed in the night to the village where the women and children were left; who were warned at the same time that their only possible escape from the fury of the advancing savages, was immediate flight. The confusion and distress into which these bereaved and unprotected females were thrown by this intelligence, can be more easily conceived than expressed; “flying,” as they are represented, “without money, clothes, or food.” Mrs. Skinner with her six surviving children, the youngest five years old was in this company. Her son, who is among the mourners, can well recollect that he came off without hat, shoes, or jacket; such was the haste and confusion of their departure. The little children of our departed friend, as they hastened to the water side, where boats were prepared for their conveyance down the river, were ready to cry with the anguish of their bruised and lacerated feet; but the chidings of the wary mother, and the dread of being heard by the suspected savage in ambush, repressed their weeping, and made them tread with breathless silence their painful way. O! when will the inhabitants of the earth learn war no more.

With great feelings she must have left this place—her little property plundered, her dwelling laid in ashes, her husband in the grave, and her two sons lying mangled and unburied on the field of battle, can be more easily conceived than described. To the land of her nativity her thoughts and her course were now bent,—a formidable journey, we should think for a feeble mother with six tender children to make on foot, without money, clothes or provisions. Much of her way lay through Dutch settlements, to whom she could neither tell the story of her sufferings, nor make known her present necessities, except by signs. Fame, however, which went before her, had already related her tale of woe, and secured for her many kindnesses from this people of a strange language. After a journey of one hundred miles by water, and near three hundred by land, she arrived in safety at the place of her former residence, when she removed some years after to this place. All her children she outlived by many years except the son with whom she resided; whom providence appears to have spared, for the grateful service of sustaining and comforting her in her decrepitude.

MURDER OF CAPTAIN HUDDY,

Of the Revolutionary Army.

We are indebted to the North American, for the following brief account of the death of HUDDY: it is in the form of a letter, from a Clergyman to his son.

IN the early periods of the war, the British made many more prisoners than the Americans. This of itself would have prevented any thing like a general exchange; but the truth was, the British at that period, did not desire an exchange. They expected to conquer the country, and were willing to retain their prisoners; probably expecting that by the severity of their treatment, others would be deterred from taking up arms in defence of their country. But when it became evident that this effect was not produced, and especially after the surrender of Burgoyne's whole army, and the prisoners made by General Washington at Trenton and Princeton, augmented in number by the partizan warfare which followed in the succeeding winter and spring, the British became willing to listen to proposals for the exchange of prisoners, and the sufferings of those they then had in their power were in a measure mitigated. The Tories were more cruel in the treatment of their captured countrymen, than the British whom they had joined. Governor Franklin had found his way into New-York, and had become president of the "Board of Associated Royalists," which Sir Henry Clinton had previously formed. A party of refugees belonging to this association, had taken, after a gallant resistance, a small military post in Monmouth county, New Jersey, and made a prisoner of Captain Joshua Huddy, its brave commander. They took him to New York, and after a close confinement of fifteen days, they sentenced him to be hanged. This sentence, a party of them, sent out for the purpose, executed four days afterwards, on the heights of Middleton. They fixed a label on his breast when they left him, with an inscription which was concluded in these words—"Up goes Huddy for Philip White." This White had been taken by a party of Jersey militia, and had been killed while attempting to make his escape.

On this occasion, General Washington advertised the British, that such deeds as that which had been perpetrated in the instance just mentioned, should no longer pass without retaliation. In a letter to Sir Henry Clinton, he suggested that the murderers of Huddy should be delivered up to him. When it was found that this suggestion would not be complied with, the threatened retaliation was provided for, by the British prisoners of the same military rank as that of captain Huddy being required to furnish a victim to avenge his death. This was done by casting lots, and the lot fell on a captain Asgill. I well remember the deep interest which I felt myself, and which I believe was felt by the whole community, in the expected fate of this unfortunate man. But his life was ultimately spared, to the joy, I would hope, of all who were acquainted with his

story. The execution of the fearful destiny which hung over him was delayed from time to time, no doubt with the wish of General Washington that something might occur to render its taking place unnecessary. This wish was at last gratified. Sir Henry Clinton, under whose connivance the royal refugees had acted, was succeeded in the chief command of the British army by Sir Guy Carlton, a man of a very different character. Indeed it ought, whenever he is mentioned, to be recorded to the memory of Sir Guy Carlton, that from first to last, where he commanded, American prisoners were treated with humanity, and even with kindness. After the fall of Gen. Montgomery in the attack of Quebec, the prisoners who fell into his hands, to the amount of several hundred, received clothing as well as sufficient food, and were at length dismissed, with all necessary supplies, to their several homes, under an oath not to serve against the British troops till they should be exchanged. He broke up the association of royal refugees, informed general Washington that he disapproved of their proceedings, and promised a farther investigation of their conduct; although a court-martial had acquitted the leader of the party that murdered Huddy, affirming that he had acted under the instructions of Governor Franklin. In the mean time, the Count de Vergennes, prime minister of France, wrote to general Washington, making intercession for captain Asgill, accompanied by a most pathetic letter from his mother to the Count, beseeching him to interpose for the preservation of the life of her son. As the war by this time was drawing to a close, and a confidence was entertained, from the known character of Sir Guy Carlton, that no atrocities similar to that for which Asgill was doomed to suffer, would be permitted; Congress, on receiving copies of the letter mentioned above, passed a resolution—"That the commander-in-chief be directed to set captain Asgill at liberty." He was released accordingly, and permitted to go to New-York. During the whole period in which he was under sentence of death, his condition commanded universal sympathy; he was treated with the greatest tenderness, and witnessed at last the general satisfaction which his release occasioned.

You will probably remark that the charge of cruelty which I bring against the British, is general and indefinite—accompanied only by the single specification of their inhumanity and injustice in the case of Huddy. The truth is, that when I began this letter, I expected to specify in the latter part of it, what I painfully witnessed with my own eyes. But this I find, from the length to which I have already gone, must be reserved for another communication. In the mean time, I will simply copy from Ramsay's His-

tory, the report of the American Board of War, which is no doubt authentic. The report is dated December 1st, 1777, and is as follows:

The American board of war, after conferring with Mr. Boudinot, the commissioner-general of prisoners, and examining evidence adduced by him, reported among other things, that there were nine hundred privates and three hundred officers of the American army prisoners in the city of New-York, and about five hundred privates and fifty officers prisoners in Philadelphia.* That since the beginning of October, all these prisoners have been confined in prisonships, or in the Provost: That from the best evidence the subject could admit of, the general allowance of prisoners, at most did not exceed four ounces of meat per day; and often so damaged as not to be eatable: That it had been a common practice with the British, on a prisoner's being first captured, to keep him three, four, or five days without a morsel of meat, and then to tempt him to enlist to save his life: That there were numerous instances of prisoners of war perishing in all the agonies of hunger.

The section which immediately follows this quotation exhibits a cheering contrast, which it were criminal to withhold, and which I insert with unfeigned pleasure:

About this time, (December 24th, 1777,) there was a meeting of merchants in London, for the purpose of raising a sum of money to relieve the distress of the American prisoners, then in England. The sum subscribed for that

*This was in the winter of 1777-8, when this city was in the occupancy of the British army.

purpose amounted in two months to £4647 15s. [sterling, of course.] Thus while human nature was dishonored by the cruelties of some of the British in America, there was a laudable display of the benevolence of others of the same nation in Europe.

It must be remembered, that what I have hitherto said about the treatment of American prisoners in this country, relates exclusively to what took place in the northern parts of the United States and in Canada. At the South, still more deplorable scenes, if possible, were often witnessed. In these, the preponderance of barbarity was, I believe, on the side of the British; but it is undeniable that cruelties to prisoners, shocking to every virtuous feeling, were perpetrated on both sides. Of these, however, I shall give no details. But as I would not omit to notice any display of humanity in such circumstances, I will just mention, that a British colonel, by the name of Campbell, although he had himself experienced ill-treatment when a prisoner among the Americans, had the magnanimity to oppose and prevent all abuse of American prisoners, so far as his influence extended; and his influence must have been considerable, since it was he who commanded in the reduction of Savannah, the capitol of Georgia. On reading over what I have written in this letter, I cannot forbear to ejaculate, "O come the happy period!—and blessed be God, it will come—when the truths of the blessed Gospel, accompanied by the Spirit of all truth, shall be diffused throughout all nations, exterminating the ferocious passions of the corrupted human heart, implanting in their place all the christian graces, and terminating forever the horrors and the vices of war."

DIRGE.

BY A. M'MAKIN, ESQ.

To the Memory of Captain Joshua Huddy, who fell a victim to the Blood-thirsty lawlessness of frontier aggression at an early period of the Revolutionary War.

Brave Martyr of the stormy time
When dark the war-cloud lowr'd!
When Patriots heard the tocsin's chime,
And bared each ready sword;
Though late thy requiem Dirge we sing,
And far that hour of woe,
Yet, still thy fate the sigh will bring,
And bid our tear drops flow.

Ere yet thy budding laurels bloom'd,
In freedom's golden sun,
A lawless horde thy life had doom'd,
Thy faithful weapon won.—

But powerless to taint thy name,
Their gather'd hate and ire;
Thy luckless fate but fed that flame,
That wrapt their funeral pyre!

Rest, in thy peaceful ashes, Rest!
Thy country's faithful son;
The turf be light upon thy breast,
Till time's rough course is run.
And when to meet each sure reward
Th' unnumber'd millions rise,
Oh! may thy joys, on earth debar'd,
Be granted in the skies.

BATTLE OF GERMANTOWN,

1777.

COLONEL STIRLING with two regiments was detached to take possession of the fort at Billingsport, which he accomplished without opposition. On his approach, the garrison, which was entirely of militia, having spiked their artillery and set fire to the barracks, withdrew without firing a gun. This service being effected and the works facing the water entirely destroyed, so that the attempts to cut away and weigh up the obstructions to the passage of vessels up the river could no longer be impeded by the fire from the fort, colonel Stirling returned to Chester, from whence he was directed to escort a large convoy of prisoners to Philadelphia. Entertaining some apprehensions for the safety of this convoy, another regiment was detached from Germantown to Philadelphia in order to proceed next day to Chester, and join colonel Stirling.

This division of the force of the enemy did not pass unobserved. It appeared to Washington to furnish a fair opportunity, which he determined promptly to seize, of giving Sir William Howe a blow, which, if successful to its utmost extent, might, in his present state of separation from the fleet, ruin his army, and very possibly decide the fate of the war.

It was proposed, if practicable, to surprise the camp at Germantown, and to attack both wings in front and rear at the same instant.

The divisions of Sullivan and Wayne, flanked by Conway's brigade, were to march down the main road, and entering the town by the way of Chesnut hill, to attack the left wing; while general Armstrong with the Pennsylvania Militia was to fall down the Manatawny road, by Vanderling's mill, and turning the left flank to attack in the rear.

The divisions of Greene and Stephen, flanked by M'Dougal's brigade, were to take a circuit by the way of the Limekiln road, and entering the town at the market-house, attack their right wing.

The militia of Maryland and Jersey, under generals Smallwood and Forman, were to march down the old York road, and turning their right to fall upon its rear.

The division of lord Stirling, and the brigades of Nash, and Maxwell, were to form a corps de reserve.

Parties of cavalry were silently to scour the roads to prevent observation, and to keep up the communication between the heads of the different columns.

The necessary arrangements being made, the army moved from its ground about seven o'clock in the afternoon. About sunrise the next morning the advance of the column led by Sullivan, which was drawn from Conway's brigade, encountered and drove in a picket, placed at Mount Airy, or Mr. Allen's house.

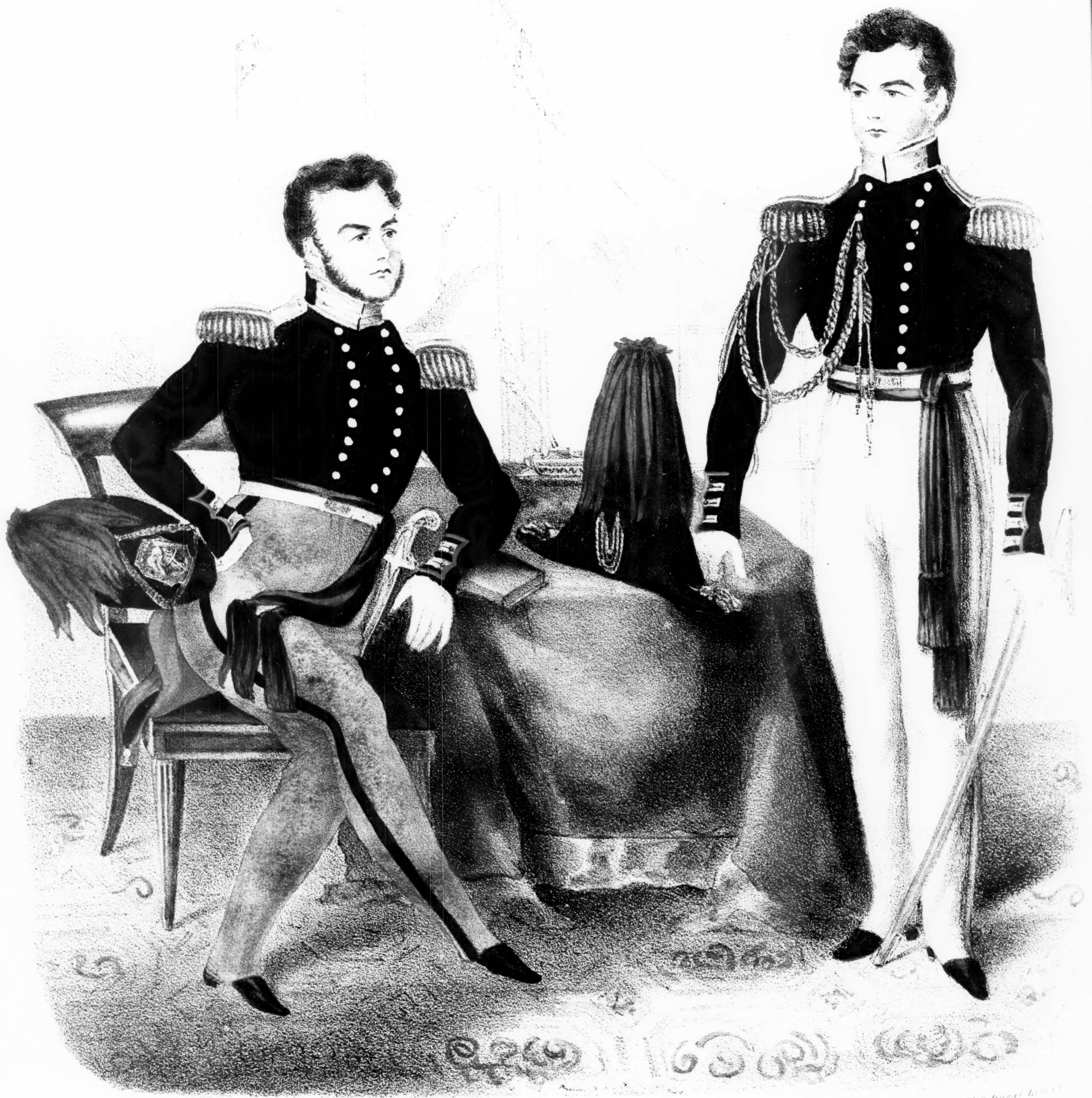
The main body followed close upon them, and engaging the light infantry, and the 40th regiment, posted at the head of the village, soon forced them to give way leaving all their baggage behind them. Though closely pursued lieutenant colonel Musgrave found means to throw himself

with six companies of the 40th regiment into a large stone house, belonging to Mr. Chew, directly in the way of the Americans, from which they were very severely galled by a heavy and constant fire of musketry kept up from the doors and windows. Some ineffectual attempts were made to storm this house, in which great loss was sustained; after which, the brigade engaged with colonel Musgrave, drew off some distance, and brought up a field piece which played on it without making any impression. This circumstance broke the line of the right wing; and, added to the darkness occasioned by a fog of uncommon thickness, threw it into great confusion.

In about half an hour after Sullivan had been engaged, the column led by Greene, arrived on its ground, and commenced an attack on the light infantry which was posted in front of the right wing of the enemy. It was at first successful, and after driving in the pickets, forced the battalion of light infantry also to give way.

Every thing as yet had succeeded to the utmost expectation of general Washington, and the prospect of victory was extremely flattering. The attack had been made with great spirit; several brigades had penetrated into the town; there was much reason to believe that a separation of the two wings of the British army would be effected, and that they would be entirely routed. Had his troops possessed the advantages given by experience, had every division performed precisely the part allotted to it; there is yet much reason to believe that his most sanguine hopes would have been realized. But, the face of the country, and the extreme darkness of the morning, co-operating with the want of discipline in the army, blasted all the flattering appearances of the moment and defeated an enterprise which promised in its commencement the most happy and brilliant result.

The country through which the enemy was pursued, abounded with strong and small enclosures which every where broke the line of the advancing army. The darkness of the morning rendered it difficult to distinguish objects, even at an inconsiderable distance; and it was impossible for the commander-in-chief to learn the situation of the whole, or to correct the confusion which was commencing. The brigades were soon thrown into disorder. Some of the regiments pursuing with vivacity while others endeavoured to proceed more circumspectly, they were entirely separated from each other, so that their weight was broken, and their effect very much weakened. The same cause which facilitated the separation of the regiments, prevented their discerning the real situation of the enemy. They consequently did not improve their first impression, nor direct their efforts to the most advantage. The right of the left wing got so out of its course as to be entangled with Chew's house, on one side of it stopped, while a brigade of Sullivan's was engaged on the other. The attacks on the flanks and rear do not appear ever to have been made. The Pennsylvania militia came in view of the



From Life on Stone by A. Hoffy. Lieutenant

Staff Officer.

U.S. Naval Academy

U. S. MARINE CORPS.

chasseurs, who flanked the left of the British line, but did not engage them closely. The Maryland and Jersey militia just showed themselves on the right flank about the time Greene's column was commencing a retreat.

These embarrassments, arising entirely from circumstances which would have been overcome by experienced troops, gave the enemy time to recover from the consternation into which they had at first been thrown. General Knyphausen, who commanded their left, detached one battalion to support the chasseurs, and part of the third and fourth brigades under generals Gray and Agnew, to attack the front of the column led by Sullivan which had penetrated far into the village, while its left was detained at Chew's house.

Some corps from both their right and left attacked the regiments which had penetrated furthest into Germantown, where a part of Muhlenberg's and Scott's brigades were surrounded and made prisoners. The different broken parts mistook each other for the enemy, and while a part of Sullivan's division was very warmly engaged, and sanguine hopes of victory were yet entertained, the main body of the army began to retreat.

Great efforts were made to rally the American troops, when this retrograde movement first commenced, but they were ineffectual. A general confusion prevailed, and the confidence felt in the commencement of the action was entirely lost. With infinite chagrin, general Washington was compelled to relinquish the victory he had thought within his grasp, and turn his attention to the security of his army. The enemy not having yet recovered sufficiently to endanger his rear, otherwise than by their artillery, the retreat was made without loss.

In this battle, about two hundred Americans were killed, and near three times that number wounded. The most considerable mischief was done from Chew's house, and in Germantown, where the regiments which had separated from their brigades suffered severely before they surrendered. About four hundred were made prisoners.—Among the killed was general Nash of North Carolina, who fell at the head of his brigade; and among the prisoners, was colonel Mathews of Virginia, whose regiment had penetrated into the centre of the town, and made a large number of prisoners, when they were surrounded and obliged to surrender.

The loss of the enemy as stated in the official report of general Howe, was but little more than five hundred in killed and wounded, of whom, less than one hundred were killed. Among the latter were brigadier general Agnew and colonel Bird.

The grenadiers who had been in Philadelphia, under lord Cornwallis, hastened on the first alarm to the support of their brethren. They ran the whole distance, and reached the field of battle almost breathless and exhausted, just as the action terminated.

The American army retreated the same day about twenty miles to Perkyomy creek, where it was permitted to take rest and refreshment, and where a small re-enforcement of fifteen hundred militia, and a state regiment from Virginia were received, after which, it again advanced a few miles towards the enemy, and encamped once more on Skippack creek.

The plan of the battle of Germantown must be admitted to have been most judiciously formed, and in its commencement to have been happily conducted. Although general Howe in his official letter states intelligence of the approach of the American army to have been received about three o'clock in the morning, yet there is reason to believe that only small parties of observation could have been expected, and that the meditated surprise was complete. The camp, part of which was traversed by several American regiments furnished strong evidence of this fact; and it is rendered the more probable, by the circumstances attending the march of the re-enforcements from Philadelphia. But to have given the plan success, it was necessary that those intrusted with the execution of its several parts should have adhered strictly to it. It was also necessary that the utmost vigilance should have been used to prevent the breaking and separating of the different brigades from each other, and to preserve the smaller parts entire, a duty of great importance, the performance of which was rendered extremely difficult by the numerous enclosures to be passed, and the thickness of the fog.

Major general Stephen who commanded the right of the left wing, was cashiered for mis-conduct on the retreat and for intoxication. No inquiries appear to have been made into the conduct of other general officers.

DRESS OF THE MARINE CORPS

Of the United States.

HEAD QUARTERS OF THE MARINE CORPS,
ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
Washington, 1st July, 1839.

ORDERS!

Under orders from the Navy Department, dated the 29th May, 1839, (a copy of which is hereto annexed,) the Presi-

dent of the United States has approved of the following described uniform as the full and undress, to be worn by all officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates, of the Marine Corps, from and after the 4th July, 1840; and it is hereby enjoined on the officers of the Corps strictly to adhere to it.

Officers joining the Corps, as well as other commissioned officers, who may wish to adopt the new uniform before the 4th of July, 1840, are permitted to do so.

By order of

ARCH. HENDERSON,
Colonel Commandant Marine Corps.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
MAY 29th, 1839.

SIR:

The change of uniform for the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the Marine Corps, as proposed in your letter of the 22d ult., has been approved by the President of the United States, to take effect from the 4th day of July, 1840.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) J. K. PAULDING.

Col. A. HENDERSON,
Commandant U. S. Marine Corps, Head Quarters.

UNIFORM

*Of the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, Musicians,
and Privates of the United States Marine Corps.*

OFFICERS.

Coat—For Field Officers, Captains and Staff, Navy blue cloth, double breasted; two rows of buttons, two and a half inches apart from the inner edge of the buttons, from top to bottom, ten in each row; standing collar, to be edged round with scarlet, to meet in front with hooks and eyes, and to rise no higher than to permit the free turning of the chin over it; two loops, four and a half inches long, on each side of the collar, with small uniform buttons at each end of the loops; plain round cuffs, three inches deep; slashed flap on the sleeve, six and a half inches long, and two and one-fourth inches wide at the points, and one and nine-tenths of an inch at the narrowest part of the curve; loops and small buttons on the slashed flap on the sleeve, four for Field Officers, and three for the Captains and Staff, to be placed at equal distances; slashed flap on the shirt, with four loops and large buttons; the slashed flaps on the sleeves and skirt to be edged with scarlet on the ends and indented edge; two large buttons at the waist; skirt to extend to the bend of the knee; turnbacks and linings, scarlet cloth or kersey-mere; gold embroidered shell and flame at the bottom of the skirt; loops on the collar and flaps to be of gold lace half an inch wide, and the entire loop not to exceed one and a quarter inches in breadth; the breast of the coat to be lined with scarlet twilled shalloon.

The coat for Lieutenants to be of the same as prescribed for Field Officers, excepting that there shall be but two loops and buttons on the slashed flap on the sleeve, and the skirt to extend to within three and a half inches of the bend of the knee.

Hat—To be made as a cocked hat, and to admit of being closed like a chapeau; the fan or back part not to exceed ten inches, nor less than eight and a half inches high; the front or cock to be from one inch to an inch and a half less than the back; the corners to be from five to six inches long; the hat to be bound with plain black twilled ribbon; the straps on the front side to be of the same ribbon as the binding.

Cockade—Black twilled silk, loop of gold; the pattern to be furnished by the Quarter-master of the corps. Tassels, crimson and gold.

Plume—Of the Commandant red and white cock-feathers, equally divided from tip to stem; all other officers entitled to wear the Chapeau, plume to be of red cock-feathers.

Subalterns, black beaver cap, plume red cock-feathers, such as is worn by Artillery Officers of the army of the United States; pattern to be furnished by the Quarter-master.

Epaulettes—For Field Officers, gold, bright bullion, half an inch in diameter, three and a half inches long; plain strap, crescent solid.

For Captains and Staff, same, except that the bullion be smaller, and but two and a half inches long.

Lieutenants same as Captains, with smaller bullion. All officers to wear one epaulette on each shoulder.

Buttons—Gilt, convex, with eagle, anchor and stars, raised border.

Trousers—From the 15th of October to the 30th April, sky blue cloth. From the 1st of May to the 14th October, white linen drilling, without the stripe.

Sword—Brass scabbard sword, with a mamaluke hilt of white ivory; extreme length of sword three feet one and a half inch, curve of blade half an inch only, to serve as cut or thrust; the hilt (which is included in the extreme length) of the sword, four inches and three-quarters; width of scabbard, one inch and seven-eighths; width of blade, one inch.

Sword-knot—Crimson and gold, with bullion tassel.

Sword-belt—White leather, two inches wide, with sliding frog, to be worn round the waist, over the coat, and clasped in front; clasp according to a pattern to be furnished by the Quarter-master's Department.

Sash—Crimson silk net, with bullion fringe ends, to go twice round the waist and tie on the left hip; the pendant part to be one foot from the tie.

Stock—Black bombazine.

Gloves—White.

Boots—Half boots, to be worn under the trousers.

Spurs—For Field Officers and Staff, yellow metal or gilt.

Staff—Officers of the Staff will be distinguished by gold eguilletes, worn on the right shoulder under the epaulette.

Frock Coat—For Field Officers, Staff, and Captains of the line, Navy blue cloth, two rows of large buttons, ten in each row, three inches apart from the inner edge of the buttons, from top to bottom, rolling collar to button close up at the throat, two small marine buttons at the fastening of the cuffs, three large buttons in the folds behind, equally distant from the waist to the bottom of the flaps. Skirt to be lined with black silk.

Conclusion in next No.